

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

SUB C17

1 A method for preventing copying of proprietary digital image data
2 that is rendered within a window displayed on a computer monitor, comprising:
3 providing screen pixel data for rendering on a computer monitor, the
4 screen pixel data including pixel data for a first window having proprietary digital
5 image data therewithin;
6 detecting that a second window is going to be displayed on the
7 computer monitor;
8 determining the position and size of the second window;
9 determining, based on the position and size of the second window, a
10 portion of the screen pixel data wherein the first window is going to be covered by
11 the second window; and
12 replacing the portion of the screen pixel data with substitute pixel
13 data, prior to the second window being displayed.

1 2. The method of claim-1 further comprising the step of registering an
2 application to include a system-wide hook in order to monitor window events
3 occurring within a windows operating system, and wherein said detecting comprises
4 receiving notification of a window event from the windows operating system.

1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the system-wide hook is a Windows
2 CBT hook.

1 4. The method of claim 2 herein the system-wide hook is a Windows
2 CallWndProc hook.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said detecting detects that a new
2 window is going to be opened.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said detecting detects that an
2 existing window is going to be enlarged.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said detecting detects that an
2 existing window is going to be maximized.

15. The system of claim 10 wherein said event detector detects that an existing window is going to be enlarged.

16. The system of claim 10 wherein said event detector detects that an existing window is going to be maximized.

17. The system of claim 10 wherein said event detector detects that that an existing window is going to be moved from behind the first window to in front of the first window.

18. The system of claim 10 wherein the substitute pixel data is white pixel data.

19. A method for preventing copying of proprietary digital image data that is rendered within a window displayed on a computer monitor, comprising:

- providing screen pixel data for rendering on a computer monitor, the screen pixel data including pixel data for a first window having proprietary digital image data therewithin;
- detecting that a second window is going to be displayed on the computer monitor;
- determining the position and size of the second window;
- determining, based on the position and size of the second window, a portion of the screen pixel data wherein the proprietary digital image data is going to be covered by the second window; and
- replacing the portion of the screen pixel data with substitute pixel data, prior to the second window being displayed.

20. A system for preventing copying of proprietary digital image data that is rendered within a window displayed on a computer monitor, comprising:

- a computer monitor on which screen pixel data is rendered, the screen pixel data including pixel data for a first window having proprietary digital image data therewithin;
- an event detector detecting that a second window is going to be displayed on the computer monitor;
- a window processor for determining the position and size of the second window, and for determining, based on the position and size of the second

- 10 window, a portion of the screen pixel data wherein the proprietary digital image data
11 is going to be covered by the second window; and
12 a pixel processor for replacing the portion of the screen pixel data
13 with substitute pixel data, prior to the second window being displayed.

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